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Naples, July 28.

FRom *Messina* we have advice, That some secret contrivances had been discovered there, to the prejudice of the French, and that the principal Authors had been punished with death; and that the Major of the City was imprisoned, for having discoursed too freely of several private matters. The Dutch and Spanish Fleet remains at *Palermo*. The French Men of War and the other Vessels set out from *Messina* do extremely infest these Seas.

Florence, Aug. 4. From *Rome* they write, that matters are preparing for the approaching Conclave; that in order thereunto, the Cardinals arrive daily; that the French Ambassador had Audience of the Colledge of Cardinals; and that the *Conde de Melgar* General of the Spanish Horse in *Milan*, was expected there, in quality of Ambassador from *Spain*, to take care of the affairs of that Crown, while the Cardinal *Nethard* is shut up in the Conclave. From *Leghorne* we hear that the French Fleet of Men of War is passed by for *Sicily*.

Copenhagen, Aug. 4. The King of *Denmark* continues before the Castle of *Landscroone*, which he batters with 60 pieces of Cannon; and at the same time, the Besieged are not wanting to make a return in the same kind. It is said that the King of *Sueden* is still at *Christianstadt*, where he gathers all the Forces he can together, in order to the forming an Army, having at present about 10000 Men with him there. The King of *Denmark* is raising two Regiments of the Inhabitants of *Schonen*, one of Horse commanded by Colonel *Steenjen*. and the other of Dragoons, under the command of Col. *Steinbrake*. We hear that the Sieur *Guldenlieu* has quitted the intentions he had to besiege *Gottenburg*, because of the strong Garison he understood to be in the place, and that he was gone to attack a small place not far from thence. We have not as yet any account of the Sieur *Tromps* having made a descent on the Isle of *Rugen*, where it seems the Suedes are in a better posture than was expected.

Hamburg, Aug. 14. We have from several hands an account, that yesterday the Suedish Garison marched out of *Stade*, and that at the same time the *Lunenburg* Troops entred and took possession of the place; as yet we have not any farther particulars. From *Pomeren* we hear, that the Elector of *Brandenburg* has sent part of his Forces to besiege *Stetin*, while the rest continue the Siege of *Anclam*. The Castle of *Landscroon* in *Schonen* holds out still.

From the French Camp at Germersheim, *Aug.* 10. We continue encamped here, within Cannon-shot of the Enemies Camp, without any action that has passed between us; and it's believed we shall be forced to retire without doing any thing, the Enemy remaining in their Retrenchments, where they are so secured by Woods, Bogs, and the *Rhine*, that it is impossible for us to attack them without very great disadvantage. Last night we brought our Engines down the River, having set fire to them, the Imperialists opened their Bridge, and let one pass, and the other three were stopt by them before they came so low, and burnt without effect; in the mean time 7 or 800 Men, who were in several Boats, and made a shew of following the said Machines, on the sudden, went ashore on the other side, in order to their getting into *Philipsburg*; but they found the Avenues so well guarded, that they were forced to repass the *Rhine*.

From the Camp before Philipsburg, *Aug.* 11. We have been for these 5 or 6 days in a continual expectation to hear that the two Armies were engaged, for they have lay'n since the 6*th* instant almost in sight of each other; and because the French pretended to succor the Besieged on the side of the Water, Prince *Herman* of *Baden* drew off the Imperial Troops that were here, and posted himself with them at *Rhinsheim*, on this side the *Rhine* to prevent the same. The 8*th* instant, several Boats with French Soldiers came down to *Lidesheim*, with design to land there, and endeavor to get into *Philipsburg*; but Prince *Herman* sending immediately several Troops thither, the French repassed the *Rhine* again, and marched on the other side to their Camp at *Germersheim*. The 9*th*, about midnight, the Enemy brought down three of their great Machines, fitted in the manner of Fireships, to burn the Imperialists Bridge, being followed with a great many Boats full of Soldiers; but Prince *Herman* having a watchfull eye upon the Enemies motions, sent out the Boats he had prepared likewise with combustible matters, who laid the said Machines on board and set fire to them, so that they burnt without any effect; upon which, the French Soldiers that were in the Boats, to the number of about 500. instead of continuing their way down the *Rhine*, put themselves ashore on the other side, with intention to shelter themselves in the Woods, and to get into *Philipsburg* the night following; but Prince *Herman* having caused General *Schultz* to advance that way, the Enemy found themselves obliged to repass the *Rhine* with all diligence; which however, they could not do so timely, but that several of them remained behind, who were killed or taken Prisoners. The same night the Besieged made a sally, to favor we suppose the getting in of the succors they expected. We at present batter the Town with 24 pieces of Cannon. from two Batteries, and are about raising another Battery of five whole Cannon; and so soon as the Imperial Troops return to the Siege, which we expect every hour, since the French Army is retired, hope to make a speedy end of it.

Spire, Aug. 11. After having been several days in expectation of a Battel between the Imperial and French Armies, we have this day advice, that the latter is retired, finding the Imperialists too advantageously posted to attempt any thing upon them; and as to their design of succouring *Philipsburg* by water, it wholly failed for not only their Machines, which they brought down the 9*th* instant at night, were taken and burnt by the Imperialists, but 500 French who had passed the *Rhine* in order to their getting into *Philipsburg*, were obliged by Major General *Schultz* to repass the same in great disorder, so that several of them were killed and drowned. *Philipsburg* will now be attacked very vigorously, it is at present battered with 20 pieces of Cannon, and other Batteries